Choosing a Leader

A good group/team leader needs these qualities. They must be

1. Consistent
2. Supportive
3. Honest
4. Discreet
5. Realistic
6. Mentoring
7. Encouraging
8. Mature

When choosing your team leader keep these points in mind.

Your team leader must lead. They will be the focal point of my liaison with your team. They will occasionally have to be bossy. They will need to provide LEADERSHIP.

They will have to accept responsibility. They will be responsible for making sure deadlines are met. They are ultimately responsible for the QUALITY of what the team does.

When things go well the Team Lead is hero. When things go bad the team lead is a goat. Choose someone who will not let ego get in the way of ensuring that everyone on the team is a hero.

The team lead is the person who will be the primary contact for the client. Choose someone who can act professionally, not all of us is good at schmoozing the client.

Finally, the group leader must be someone who uses their authority with discretion. The project advisor and course professor are the ultimate disciplinary authority however if work is not being done the PL can and should first attempt to correct the situation themselves. Choose someone whom the team members can respect when they have to admonish someone for their transgressions.